

Financial support for R and D activities under schemes of Department of Scientific and Industrial Research, collaborative research taken up by various laboratories of the CSIR and setting up of National Institute of Pharmaceutical Education and Research to produce R and D oriented scientist are some of the steps which have been taken to encourage R and D.

Underworld Dons

3681. SHRI T. GOPAL KRISHNA : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are aware that underworld dons from Bombay are engaging unemployed youth from Uttar Pradesh/Bihar to be used as hit men in their nefarious activities;

(b) the steps proposed to be taken to help the unemployed youth from falling prey to these underworld dons; and

(c) the measures proposed to be taken to punish the criminals on the line of the gulf countries?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MOHD. MAQBOOL DAR) : (a) No such instance has come to the notice of the Government.

(b) and (c). Do not arise.

[Translation]

Sugar Production Order of 1977

3682. SHRI RATILAL KALIDAS VERMA : Will the Minister of FOOD be pleased to state :

(a) whether the present Sugar Production Order of 1977 limits the production of sugar and has become obsolete in view of advancement of machines and other infrastructure in the sugar industry which has increased sugar production manifold;

(b) whether any study has been made with a view to suggest amendments in the present statute;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the action taken/proposed to be taken by the Government to make amendments therein?

THE MINISTER OF FOOD AND MINISTER OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC

DISTRIBUTION (SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV) : (a) The production of sugar in any sugar factory is dependent on its licensed capacity.

(b) to (d). The issue of delicensing of Sugar Industry is under consideration of the Government.

[English]

National Minorities Financial Development Corporation

3683. SHRI SANAT MEHTA :

SHRI G.M. BANATWALLA :

SHRI BHAKTA CHARAN DAS :

Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 2413 on August 1, 1996 and state :

(a) the details of the contribution so far by the State Government to participate in the equity of the National Minorities Financial Development Corporation (NMFDC);

(b) the expenditure incurred by the NMFDC since its inception, State-wise;

(c) the number of persons benefited and the amount provided to them during the last three years, State-wise;

(d) the criteria being followed to select the people for providing the financial assistance;

(e) the number of applications received for assistance during the current year, State-wise; and

(f) the amount provided to them under the scheme?

THE MINISTER OF WELFARE (SHRI BALWANT SINGH RAMOOWALIA) : (a) The details are as under :

S.No.	Name of the State	Amount of contribution (Rs. in crores)
1.	Uttar Pradesh	7.00
2.	Bihar	5.00
3.	Andhra Pradesh	1.00
4.	Karnataka	1.00
5.	Kerala	1.00

(b) to (f). A statement is annexed.

STATEMENT

(Rs. in Lakhs)

S.No.	Name of State	Expenditure incurred by NMFDC since its inception	Year-wise details of Amount disbursed					
			1993-94		1994-95		1995-96	
			Amt.	Bene- ficiaries	Amt.	Bene- ficiaries	Amt.	Bene- ficiaries
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
1.	Andhra Pradesh	98.00	The Corporation was established on 30.9.1994.		Nil	Nil	98.00	1650

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
2.	Haryana	93.44			Nil	Nil	93.44	263
3.	Jammu and Kashmir	112.83			Nil	Nil	112.83	230
4.	Kerala	327.14			327.14	1378	Nil	Nil
5.	Karnataka	277.08			253.43	3275	23.65	210
6.	Maharashtra	582.95			582.95	850	Nil	Nil
7.	Madhya Pradesh	136.29			Nil	Nil	136.29	763
8.	Punjab	91.69			Nil	Nil	91.69	181
9.	Tamil Nadu	464.00			464.00	1000	Nil	Nil
10.	Uttar Pradesh	1469.58			1376.40	3067	93.18	1500

Looting of Bus in Uttar Pradesh

3684. SHRI JAGAT VIR SINGH DRONA : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether an Uttar Pradesh Roadways bus enroute Ghazipur to Kanpur was looted at Chandesar on August 31st 1996; and

(b) if so, the steps being proposed by the Government to make the bus journeys safe and sound in Uttar Pradesh?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MOHD. MAQBOOL DAR) : (a) and (b). The registration, investigation, detection and prevention of crime is primarily the responsibility of the State Governments as per Constitutional provisions. Information relating to individual incidence of crime is not maintained by the Central Government.

Pollution in Yamuna

3685. SHRIMATI MEIRA KUMAR : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Pollution Control Research Institute has conducted any detailed study regarding the increasing pollution in the river Yamuna; and

(b) if so, the outcome thereof and the recommendations made in the said study?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (CAPT. JAI NARAYAN PRASAD NISHAD) : (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. The Pollution Control Research Institute, Bharat Heavy Electricals Limited, Haridwar initiated a study on water quality monitoring of Western Yamuna Canal on 21.9.1993. The date of completion of the study is 30.11.1997.

Death of Tribal Children

3686. SHRI S.B. THORAT : Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the attention of the Government has been drawn to the news-item, appearing in Times of

India, Mumbai, dated August 15, 1996 captioned "255 tribal children from 6 State districts died in June alone".

(b) if so, the reaction of the Government thereto;

(c) the details of action taken/proposed to be taken by the Government to deal with the problem of malnutrition among the tribals;

(d) whether any Central Team have assessed the situation and worked out an action plan to deal with the problem of Malnutrition in the identified tribal areas in Maharashtra; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF WELFARE (SHRI BALWANT SINGH RAMOOWALIA) : (a) Ministry of Welfare is aware of report in "Blitz" Weekly of 24th-30th August, 1996, published under the Title '500 kids starve to death in Melghat; a newsitem in the Sunday Times of India, New Delhi Edition, dated August, 18, 1996 published under the Title "500 tribal children have 'died' of malnutrition" and a few other related newsitems which have appeared in different sections of the Press on the same subject since August, 1996.

(b) and (c). The Government of Maharashtra was requested to give a report in the matter. An abstract of the main findings based on the report received from the Govt. of Maharashtra regarding deaths of children in Amaravati District of Maharashtra, in which the Melghat region falls, is as follows :

(1) Total no. of deaths analysed according to the cause of death :

S.No.	Cause of death	No. of deaths
1.	Fever	11
2.	Pneumonia	53
3.	Dysentery	39
4.	Diarrhoea	3
5.	Tuberculosis	3
6.	Pre-mature births	42
7.	Due to Accidental causes or due to bites etc.	61
Total		212